

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
TC/A.U. 3761

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of securing an absorbent article to a primary absorbent undergarment and positioning said undergarment around a wearer's torso, said undergarment having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid-impermeable baffle and an absorbent positioned therebetween, a waist opening, a pair of leg openings and a crotch portion formed between said pair of leg openings, said method comprising the steps of:
 - a) forming an absorbent article having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid permeable garment side liner having an exterior surface with an attachment means secured thereto, and an absorbent core enclosed by said cover and said liner, said absorbent article having a pair of fringes formed by joining said cover to said liner, said pair of fringes being free of elastics and extending laterally outward from said absorbent core;
 - b) positioning said primary absorbent undergarment onto a wearer's legs such that said wearer's legs extend through said leg openings and cause said crotch portion to be stretched out, said waist opening is spaced apart from said wearer's torso;
 - c) placing said absorbent article over at least a portion of said crotch portion of said primary absorbent undergarment;
 - d) using said attachment means to secure said absorbent article to said primary absorbent undergarment, said secured absorbent article acquiring a curved configuration matching at least a portion of said crotch portion of said primary absorbent undergarment and causing said pair of fringes to be biased upward to form a pair of upstanding side walls, said pair of upstanding side walls forming a pair of reservoirs located adjacent to said absorbent core, said pair of reservoirs capable of retaining body fluid that has run off of said bodyside cover of said absorbent article until said body fluid can be absorbed by said absorbent core; and
 - e) positioning said primary absorbent undergarment around said wearer's torso such that said pair of upstanding side walls are aligned against said wearer's groin.

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2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said absorbent article is formed with a liquid permeable bodyside cover and a liquid permeable garment side liner both having the same liquid permeability.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein after said wearer's legs pass through said leg openings, said wearer's legs are moved laterally apart causing said crotch portion to be stretched open.
4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said waist opening is positioned about even with said wearer's thighs before said absorbent article is placed over at least a portion of said crotch portion.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4 wherein said waist opening is positioned about even with said wearer's thighs before said absorbent article is secured to said primary absorbent undergarment.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said absorbent article is formed with a releasable peel strip covering said attachment means and said releasable peel strip is removed prior to securing said absorbent article to said primary absorbent undergarment.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said absorbent article is firmly pressed against at least a portion of said crotch portion of said primary absorbent undergarment.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said absorbent article is formed with said pair of fringes free of elastic.
9. (Currently amended) A method of securing an absorbent article to a primary absorbent undergarment and positioning said undergarment around a wearer's torso, said undergarment having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid-impermeable baffle and an absorbent positioned therebetween, a waist opening, a pair of leg openings and a crotch portion formed between said pair of leg openings, said method comprising the steps of:
 - a) forming an absorbent article having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid permeable garment side liner having an exterior surface with an attachment means secured thereto, and an absorbent core enclosed by said cover and said liner, said absorbent article having a pair of fringes formed by joining said cover to said liner, said pair of fringes being free of elastics and extending laterally outward from said absorbent core;

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- b) positioning said absorbent article over at least a portion of said crotch portion of said primary absorbent undergarment;
- c) using said attachment means to secure said absorbent article to said primary absorbent undergarment, said secured absorbent article acquiring a curved configuration matching at least a portion of said crotch portion of said primary absorbent undergarment and causing said pair of fringes to be biased upward to form a pair of upstanding side walls, said pair of upstanding side walls forming a pair of reservoirs located adjacent to said absorbent core, said pair of reservoirs capable of retaining body fluid that has run off of said bodyside cover of said absorbent article until said body fluid can be absorbed by said absorbent core;
- d) positioning said primary absorbent undergarment onto a wearer's legs such that said wearer's legs extend through said leg openings and cause said crotch portion to be stretched out, said waist opening is spaced apart from said wearer's torso; and
- e) pulling said primary absorbent undergarment up around the wearer's torso such that said pair of upstanding side walls is aligned against said wearer's groin.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said absorbent article is formed with a liquid permeable bodyside cover and a liquid permeable garment side liner both having the same liquid permeability.

11. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said absorbent article is formed with said pair of fringes free of elastic.

12. (Currently amended) A method of securing an absorbent article to a primary absorbent undergarment and positioning said undergarment around a wearer's torso, said undergarment having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid-impermeable baffle and an absorbent positioned therebetween, a waist opening, a pair of leg openings and a crotch portion formed between said pair of leg openings, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) forming an absorbent article having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid permeable garment side liner having an exterior surface with an attachment means secured thereto, a peel strip covering said attachment means, and an absorbent core enclosed by said cover, said absorbent article having a pair of fringes formed by joining said cover to said liner, said pair of fringes being free of elastics and extending laterally outward from said absorbent core;
- b) positioning said primary absorbent undergarment onto a wearer's legs such that said wearer's legs extend through said leg openings and cause said crotch portion to be

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stretched out, said waist opening is spaced apart from said wearer's torso, and said crotch portion is stretched;

- c) removing said peel strip from said absorbent article;
- d) using said attachment means to secure said absorbent article to said primary absorbent undergarment, said secured absorbent article acquiring a cup shape configuration matching at least a portion of said crotch portion of said primary absorbent undergarment and causing said pair of fringes to be biased upward to form a pair of upstanding side walls, said pair of upstanding side walls forming a pair of reservoirs located adjacent to said absorbent core, said pair of reservoirs capable of retaining body fluid that has run off of said bodyside cover of said absorbent article until said body fluid can be absorbed by said absorbent core;
- e) positioning said primary absorbent undergarment around said wearer's torso such that said pair of upstanding side walls are aligned against said wearer's groin, said absorbent article becoming soiled by absorbing body fluid during use; and
- f) withdrawing said primary absorbent undergarment from said wearer's torso and removing said soiled absorbent article.

- 13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said absorbent article is formed with a liquid permeable bodyside cover and a liquid permeable garment side liner both having the same liquid permeability.
- 14. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein said absorbent article is formed with said pair of fringes free of elastic.
- 15. (Currently amended) A method of securing an absorbent article to a primary absorbent undergarment and positioning said undergarment around a wearer's torso, said undergarment having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid-impermeable baffle and an absorbent positioned therebetween, a waist opening, a pair of leg openings and a crotch portion formed between said pair of leg openings, said method comprising the steps of:
 - a) forming an absorbent article having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid permeable garment side liner having an exterior surface with an attachment means secured thereto, a peel strip covering said attachment means, an absorbent core enclosed by said cover and said liner, said absorbent article having a pair of fringes formed by joining said cover to said liner, said pair of fringes being free of elastics and extending laterally outward from said absorbent core;

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- b) positioning said primary absorbent undergarment onto a wearer's legs such that said wearer's legs extend through said leg openings and cause said crotch portion to be stretched out, said waist opening is spaced apart from said wearer's torso, and said crotch portion is stretched;
- c) removing said peel strip from said absorbent article;
- d) using said attachment means to secure said absorbent article to said primary absorbent undergarment, said secured absorbent article acquiring a curved shape matching at least a portion of said crotch portion of said primary absorbent undergarment and causing said pair of fringes to be biased upward to form a pair of upstanding side walls, said pair of upstanding side walls forming a pair of reservoirs located adjacent to said absorbent core, said pair of reservoirs capable of retaining body fluid that has run off of said bodyside cover until said body fluid can be absorbed by said absorbent core;
- e) ~~positing~~ positioning said primary absorbent undergarment around said wearer's torso such that said pair of upstanding side walls are aligned in said wearer's groin, said absorbent article becoming soiled by absorbing body fluid during use;
- f) withdrawing said primary absorbent undergarment from said wearer's torso and removing said soiled absorbent article;
- g) replacing said soiled absorbent article with a new absorbent article.

- 16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein said absorbent article is formed with a liquid permeable bodyside cover and a liquid permeable garment side liner both having the same liquid permeability.
- 17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein said at least two absorbent articles are secured to said primary absorbent undergarment at the same time.
- 18. (Currently amended) A method of securing an absorbent article to a primary absorbent undergarment, positioning said undergarment around a wearer's torso, and removing said absorbent article from said primary absorbent undergarment, said undergarment having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid-impermeable baffle and an absorbent positioned therebetween, a waist opening, a pair of leg openings and a crotch portlon formed between said pair of leg openings, said method comprising the steps of:
 - a) forming an absorbent article having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid permeable garment side liner having an exterior surface with a garment adhesive secured thereto, a removable peel strip covering said garment adhesive, and an absorbent core enclosed by

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said cover and said liner, said absorbent article having a pair of fringes formed by joining said cover to said liner, said pair of fringes being free of elastics and extending laterally outward from said absorbent core;

- b) positioning said primary absorbent undergarment onto a wearer's legs such that said wearer's legs extend through said leg openings and cause said crotch portion to be stretched out, said waist opening is spaced apart from said wearer's torso, and at least a portion of said crotch portion is stretched into a cup shaped configuration;
- c) removing said peel strip from said absorbent article;
- d) placing said absorbent article over at least a portion of said crotch portion of said primary absorbent undergarment;
- e) pressing said absorbent article against said primary absorbent undergarment to secure said garment adhesive thereto, said secured absorbent article acquiring a curved shape matching at least a portion of said crotch portion of said primary absorbent undergarment and causing said pair of fringes to be biased upward to form a pair of upstanding side walls, said pair of upstanding side walls forming a pair of reservoirs located adjacent to said absorbent core, said pair of reservoirs capable of retaining body fluid that has run off of said bodyside cover until said body fluid can be absorbed by said absorbent core;
- f) positioning said primary absorbent undergarment around said wearer's torso such that said pair of upstanding side walls are aligned in the wearer's groin, said absorbent article becoming soiled by absorbing body fluid during use;
- g) withdrawing said primary absorbent undergarment from said wearer's torso and removing said soiled absorbent article;
- h) removing said absorbent article from said primary absorbent undergarment; and
- i) attaching a second absorbent article to said primary absorbent undergarment according to steps c through e. *

- 19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein said absorbent article is formed with said pair of fringes free of elastic.
- 20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 18 wherein said absorbent article includes said at least two absorbent articles which are secured to said primary absorbent undergarment at the same time.
- 21. (Withdrawn) A method of securing an absorbent article to a refastenable absorbent undergarment and positioning said undergarment around a wearer's torso, said undergarment

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having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid-impermeable baffle and an absorbent positioned therebetween, a refastenable waist opening, a pair of leg openings and a crotch portion formed between said pair of leg openings, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) forming an absorbent article having a liquid permeable bodyside cover, a liquid permeable garment side liner having an exterior surface with an attachment means secured thereto, and an absorbent core enclosed by said cover and said liner, said absorbent article having a pair of fringes formed by joining said cover to said liner, said pair of fringes extending laterally outward from said absorbent core and being free of elastic;
- b) positioning said refastenable absorbent undergarment onto a wearer's legs such that said wearer's legs extend through said leg openings and said refastenable waist opening is spaced apart from said wearer's torso;
- c) placing said absorbent article over at least a portion of said crotch portion of said refastenable absorbent undergarment;
- d) using said attachment means to secure said absorbent article to said refastenable absorbent undergarment, said secured absorbent article acquiring a curved configuration matching and causing said pair of fringes to be biased upward to form a pair of upstanding side walls, said pair of upstanding side walls forming a pair of reservoirs located adjacent to said absorbent core, said pair of reservoirs capable of retaining body fluid that has run off of said bodyside cover of said absorbent article until said body fluid can be absorbed by said absorbent core; and
- e) positioning said refastenable absorbent undergarment around said wearer's torso such that said pair of upstanding side walls are aligned against said wearer's groin.

22. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein an impediment layer is positioned between said absorbent core and said garment side liner.
23. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein said exterior surface of said garment side liner has a high coefficient of friction.
24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23 wherein said a high coefficient of friction makes said exterior surface a non-skid surface.
25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein said refastenable absorbent undergarment includes a pair of side seams that can be manually torn open.

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26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 21 wherein said bodyside cover has a higher liquid permeability than said garment side liner.